

JOB COMPLETION REPORT  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTSState of MontanaName Western Montana Fishery StudyProject No. F-24-D-5Title Statewide Lake and Stream Rehabilitation  
Rainbow (Dog) Lake

Period Covered: May 1, 1957 to April 30, 1958

Abstract: Rainbow Lake was rehabilitated on September 28, 1957. The tributary stream was rehabilitated on September 27, 1957. To assure a complete kill in the tributary drainage, it was sprayed by an airplane on September 29, 1957. Walleye pike, rainbow trout, pumpkinseed sunfish, squawfish, black bullheads, redbreasted shiners, coarse-scaled suckers, Columbia River chubs and yellow perch were found dead along the shore.

Objectives: The primary objective was to destroy the existing populations of fish in Rainbow Lake and develop a trout fishery.

Techniques Used: The beaver dams in the tributary stream were blown and the stream made toxic the day before the main lake was rehabilitated.

The lake was rehabilitated on September 28, 1957. Three boats rigged with spray booms distributed toxicant in specified areas. Two fire pumps were used to spray toxicant in shallow areas and the shore area. This lake was done on a Saturday so that the public could observe the area and also the crew had to work every day to get all required work done. A game warden was instructed to keep the public off the lake. Application of the toxicant was started about 8:00 A.M. and was completed by 3:00 P.M. However, the crews on the shoreline pumps worked all day. A great number of fish were killed but it was impossible to make any sample counts due to the huge number of people picking up all species of fish around the entire shore line of the lake.

A total of 1,455 gallons of toxicant was used.

Findings: Many fish were killed in the lake. The spray booms were rather awkward to work with and it is felt that a more simple device could be used. The following species of fish were killed in the lake:

Yellow pike perch (Walleyed pike) - Stizostedion vitreum  
Rainbow trout - Salmo gairdnerii  
Pumpkinseed sunfish - Lepomis gibbosus  
Squawfish - Ptychocheilus oregonensis

Black bullheads - Ameiurus melas  
Redside shiner - Richardsonius balteatus  
Coarse-scaled sucker - Catostomus macrocheilus  
Columbia River chub - Mylocheilus caurinus  
Yellow perch - Perca flavescens

It is hoped that there was a complete kill.

Recommendations: It is recommended that this lake be sampled periodically to determine if a complete kill was obtained.

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Approved by George D. Holton

Date April 30, 1958